

Omid Fakourfar

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HIGHLIGHTS

User Experience Research: Over three years of experience in planning, designing, running and analyzing qualitative and quantitative user research studies. Hands-on experience in a wide range of research methodologies including usability lab studies, remote testing, interviews, surveys, card sorting and heuristic evaluation.

Communication Skills: Skilled communicator with extensive writing and presentation experience developed through writing papers, delivering seminars and collaborating with peers from different backgrounds.

Prototyping Skills: Experienced in quickly building low and medium fidelity prototypes including physical prototypes in order to test ideas.

Organization Skills: Experienced in working with multi-disciplinary groups in extracurricular and volunteer activities. Extensive leadership experience acquired by holding community, social and scientific events.

EDUCATION

2014 - 2016	M.Sc. Human Computer Interaction , University of Calgary Calgary, Canada <i>Supervisor: Dr. Anthony Tang</i>
2010 - 2014	B.Sc. Information Technology , Amirkabir University of Technology Tehran, Iran

PUBLICATIONS

DIS 2017	Anthony Tang, Omid Fakourfar , Carman Neustaedter and Scott Bateman. "Collaboration with 360° Videochat: Challenges and Opportunities" In <i>DIS 2017: Proceedings of the 2017 Conference on Designing Interactive Systems</i> .
CHI 2017	Anthony Tang and Omid Fakourfar . "Watching 360° Videos Together" In <i>CHI 2017: Proceedings of the 2017 SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems</i> .
CHI 2016	Omid Fakourfar , Kevin Ta, Richard Tang, Scott Bateman, and Anthony Tang. "Stabilized Annotations for Mobile Remote Assistance" In <i>CHI 2016: Proceedings of the 2016 SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems</i> .

TECHNICAL SKILLS

UX RESEARCH	Hands-on experience with usability lab studies, remote studies, interviews, surveys, card sorting, heuristic evaluation, qualitative and quantitative analysis.
UXR TOOLS	Remote testing, OptimalWorkshop, SurveyMonkey, Typeform, Dscout.
WEB	HTML, CSS, JavaScript

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

User Experience Researcher

Feb. 2017 - Present

VERSETT INC., CALGARY, CANADA

- Joined as the company's first UX researcher and led the research initiative by integrating testing into Versett product design process.
- Conducted research on a wide range of internal and client projects utilizing a variety of research methods.
- Worked closely with designers and product managers to understand their UX research requirements, prioritize research opportunities and recommend the most appropriate research/testing methods to gather meaningful results.

Research Intern**Sept. 2016 - Dec. 2016**

SMART TECHNOLOGIES INC., CALGARY, CANADA

- Designed wireframes in Axure RP and implemented an add-on for SMART Notebook software using HTML5, CSS and JavaScript.
- Collaborated with in-house teams (UX, Test) and stakeholders (clients and directors) to iterate on design.

Human-Computer Interaction Research Assistant**Sept. 2014 - Nov. 2016**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

- Designed and studied multiple prototypes to support remote assistance in physical tasks using augmented reality annotations and mobile video conferencing.
- Designed and conducted a usability study to explore the effectiveness of 360-degree cameras in video conferencing.
- Designed and conducted a usability study to explore user behaviors while watching 360-degree videos together.
- Used several HCI methodologies including user-centered design, usability lab studies, surveys, interviewing, qualitative and statistical analysis.

Graduate Teaching Assistant**Sept. 2014 - Apr. 2016**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

- *Web-Based Systems*: Taught design skills and web technologies including HTML, CSS, JavaScript, jQuery, Bootstrap, etc. to the students, marked course assignment and project and provided written feedback throughout their project design process.
- *Introduction to Computer Science for Multidisciplinary Studies I*: Taught basic programming skills in Python to students, marked course exercises and exams and provided written feedback throughout the semester.
- *Introduction to Problem Solving using Application Software*: Taught basic computer science concepts and Microsoft Office (Excel and Access) to students and marked course assignments.

RELEVANT PROJECTS

Human Computer Interaction II Course Project**Winter 2015**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

- Designed and developed a proxemic display which reacts to proximity of the user, as well as supporting interaction gestures. It was a simple virtual aquarium which responded to user interactions using the Microsoft Kinect API. I drew and refined sketches and made personas for this project.

Information Visualization Course Project**Winter 2015**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

- Designed and implemented a visualization to represent soccer transfers between European clubs using D3.js library.

Research Methods in Human Computer Interaction Course Project**Fall 2014**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

- Designed and built a low-fidelity wearable prototype to support remote assistance in physical tasks through video conferencing, then evaluated the prototype with a qualitative pilot study and reported the results in a research paper format.

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEERING

Vice President - Events, Iranian Graduate Students Association**2015 - 2016**

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, CALGARY, CANADA

VIP Coordinator, Tabestoon Festival 2016**2016**

PERSIAN GULF FOUNDATION, CALGARY, CANADA

President, Students Scientific Chapter**2013**

AMIRKABIR UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, TEHRAN, IRAN

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Faculty of Graduate Studies Travel Award (University of Calgary)
- International Graduate Recruitment Award (University of Calgary)
- Visa Differential Scholarship (University of Calgary)